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RICHARD L. CATANIA, ESQ  
SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY AND PRESSER  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, NY 11530

EXAMINER

DASS, HARISH T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3628

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



### DETAILED ACTION

Claims 12, 14 and 18 are cancelled.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 5, 7-8, 11, 13, 17, and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leighton et al (hereinafter Leighton - US 5,351,302) in view of Mital (US 5,903,652), and Toscano (US 2002/0052835).

Re. Claims 1, 7 and 13, Leighton substantially discloses the limitations of current application such as: creating digitally secure document using cryptography, concatenation of data strings, digital signature, etc [see the entire document particularly, Abstract; C1 L1 to C2 L16], creating titles for personal and real property, the title including, and (ii) a digital signature of the owner [C1 L35-L68], the owner transferring ownership of the financial instrument to another person, including the steps of i) the owner, using a public signature schema of the owner, signing the title using a public signature scheme of the owner and appending to the title a public part of a signature scheme of said other person [C2 L51-L68].

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Leighton does not explicitly disclose appending a message to the title, said message including a public part of a signature scheme; and a third party emitter issuing to the owner a title for a financial instrument and a message describing the title and how to contact the emitter. However, Mital discloses a third party emitter issuing to the owner a title for a financial instrument and a message describing the title and how to contact the emitter [C2 L23-L62; C22 L24 to C23 L20; C27 L17-L53 - see distribute affidavit] to provide digital document with digital signature to be transmitted over the internet.

Toscano discloses appending a message to the title, said message including a public part [abstract; paragraphs 0003, 0007 (lines 12-15 – affix signature), 0011 (lines 13-19), 0012] to allow the user to create a legally binding electronic document using cryptography infrastructure. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosure of Leighton and include creating a title (affidavit) for a transaction, as disclosed by Mital, and appending a message to the title, said message including a public part, as discloses by Toscano, to provide internet based legally binding digital document and messages with digital signature for e-commerce to be transmitted electronically.

Re. Claims 2, 8, 20 Leighton discloses wherein the transferring step includes the step of the emitter appending to the title a number indicating the number of successive owners of the title (ownership history) [C5 L13-L44].

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Re. Claims 5, 11, & 17 Leighton discloses wherein, the creating step includes the step of using a secure cryptographic generator to create the title [C1 L35-L45; C3 L31 to C4 L14].

Re. Claim 19, Leighton discloses said signature scheme includes a private key and a public key; and the step of the owner signing the title includes the step of the owner using the public key of the signature scheme to encrypt the owner's signatures in the title [C1 L54 to C2 L16].

Re. Claim 20, Leighton discloses appending to the title a number indicating the number of successive owners of the title; and said other person using said private key of the signature scheme to decrypt the owner's signatures and said number [C1 L54 to C2 L16; C2 L28-68; C4 L26-L68].

Re. Claims 21 ad 23, Lighthouse discloses public/private key and digital signature, digital title, string of information, the issuing step includes the step of making a serial number and a description of the title publicly available as soon as the title is created [C4 L3-L55]. Lighthouse does not explicitly disclose the digital signature of the emitter includes a public key of a public/private key pair of the emitter,

the transferring step includes the steps of, after the public part of the signature scheme of said other person is appended to the title, communicating to the emitter said public part of the signature scheme of said other person,

the emitter keeping said public part of the signature scheme of said other person and making said public part of the signature scheme of said other person available to potential future buyers,

the emitter re-signing the title, and sending the re-signed title to said other person, and

sending to the emitter a number N indicating the number of successive owners of the title, and the emitter re-signing the title, and sending the re-signed title to said other person, and

a potential buyer asking the emitter to freeze the possibility of selling the title to anyone else for a period of time.

the emitter posting that there is a new owner of the title and describing the public part of the signature scheme of said other person; and

However, a titles such as car title, mortgage title, etc is will known where the seller signs the title to transfer an ownership and this transfer of the title can be down by mail or faxed (it fax is acceptable as a legitimate document) where the seller signs the title and mails (faxes) it to the buyer (the car can be sold again and the new owner transfers the title to a new owner), and similar sending to the emitter a number N indicating the number of successive owners of the title (new owner new line). further buyer's down payment are will known to ask the seller to keep/hold the item/property for the buyer for period of time (a potential buyer asking the emitter to freeze the possibility of selling the title to anyone else for a period of time) and the following limitations are known: the emitter re-signing the title, and sending the re-signed title to said other person (same like original or first a new owner and current owner/seller),

and the emitter posting that there is a new owner of the title and describing the public part of the signature scheme of said other person.

Mital discloses the digital signature of the emitter includes a public key of a public/private key pair of the emitter, the issuing step includes the step of making a serial number and a description of the title publicly available as soon as the title is created [C2 L17-L62; C4 L56-L61; C18 L11 to C19 L50];

the transferring step includes the steps of, after the public part of the signature scheme of said other person is appended to the title, communicating to the emitter said public part of the signature scheme of said other person [C8 L15-L18],

the emitter keeping said public part of the signature scheme of said other person and making said public part of the signature scheme of said other person available to potential future buyers [C2 L40-L62] to provide automatic transfer of secure document using encryptions. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosure of Leighton and include encrypted legal document (affidavit), as disclosed by Mital and provide an electronic verifiable legal document with digital signature to be transmitted over the internet.

Re. Claim 21, Lighthouse discloses sharing the signing key between the set of servers, wherein each of the servers has one of said partial keys [C2 L51-L68 – public key is know to others and digital signal has part of the private key]. Lighthouse does not explicitly the emitter is comprised of a set S of geographically distributed servers; and

the issuing step includes the steps of using a signing key to make the digital signature of the emitter, said signing key including a plurality of partial keys, at least some of the servers signing the title using a distributed protocol and using the partial keys of the servers, considering the title signed by the emitter only if a defined subset of the S servers sign the title, using specified hardware to issue the title, and using the specified hardware to print lists of title numbers and descriptions of the public part of the signature scheme used by the emitter.

**However, Mital discloses** the emitter is comprised of a set S of geographically distributed servers; and the issuing step includes the steps of using a signing key to make the digital signature of the emitter, said signing key including a plurality of partial keys [C2 L17-L62; C9 L19-L55], at least some of the servers signing the title using a distributed protocol (DES encryption) and using the partial keys (portion of key) of the servers [C2 L17-L62], considering the title signed by the emitter only if a defined subset of the S servers sign the title (see merchant computer) [C27 L17-L62; C28 L], using specified hardware to issue the title, and using the specified hardware to print lists of title numbers and descriptions of the public part of the signature scheme used by the emitter (see transmitting the document such as bill to customer where he/she can print) [C15 L15-L18] to establish a secure distributed protocol to allow the distribution of the secure digital document over the internet. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to combine the disclosures of Leighton and Mital, to establishes secure communication protocols and monitors secured transactions.



Claim 3-4, 9-10 & 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leighton and Mital as applied to claims 1, 7, 13 above, and further in view of Muftic (US 5,850,442).

Re. Claims 3-4, 9-10 & 15-16 Leighton discloses creating digital secure encrypted document (titles) using "public-key cryptosystem" [C1 L1 to C2 L16; C3 L31 to C4 L14]. Leighton or Mital does not explicitly disclose owner keeping the public part of the signature of the other person and making said public part available to potential subsequent buyers and comprising the step of sending the title, with the signature of the owner made using the public signature scheme of the owner, to said other person. However, Muftic discloses these steps [Abstract, Figures 17, 25-27; C1 L32 to C8 L7; C7 L32-L63; C7 L1-L5; C18 L35-L67] to conduct secure electronic commercial transaction over the network, which uses public key cryptography. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to combine the disclosures of Leighton, Mital and Muftic to permit secure transaction to undertake world wide transparently over the Internet.

Claims 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leighton and Mital as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Arbaugh et al (US 6,185,678).

Re. Claim 6, neither Leighton nor Mital explicitly discloses wherein the secure cryptographic generator is an IBM 4758. However, Arbaugh et al discloses this step to allow software and data to be transferred between computer system [C1 L20-67; C4 L33-L65; C7 L6-L27; C9 L11-60]. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to combine the disclosures of Leighton, Mital and Arbaugh et al to permit secure transaction to undertake over the Internet.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

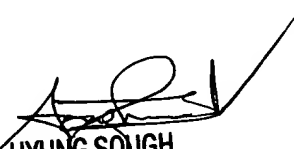
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T. Dass whose telephone number is 571-272-6793. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on 571-272-6799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Harish T Dass  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3628

5/26/06

  
HYUNG SOUGH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600